

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 REYKJA 01088 121347Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-10  
NSAE-00 PA-02 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 DODE-00  
NSC-05 OMB-01 /064 W  
-----121390 130134Z /73

R 121116Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK  
TO USIA WASHDC  
INFO COMICEDEFOR KEFLAVIK IC  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
SECSTATE WASHDC 7534  
USMISSION NATO

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 1088

USIAC FOR IP, IPS, IMV, IEU

USMISSION NATO FOR USIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: CONTROVERSIAL NATO FILMS ON ICELAND STATE TV

. ICELAND STATE TV BROADCAST TWO-PART SERIES ENTITLED "NATO  
ON ITS KNEES?" AUGUST 3 AND 10, A PRODUCTION OF BRITISH  
INDEPENDENT TV STATION "THAMES TV." SERIES EVOKED OVERALL  
NEGATIVE IMPRESSION OF NATO CAPABILITIES IN EVENT OF SOVIET  
PRE-EMPTIVE STRIKE, SUGGESTING WESTERN ALLIES ILL PREPARED.

MAJOR CRITIC, FORMER U.S. AIR FORCE GENERAL KEEGANGN ASSERTED  
NATO UNWILLING LISTEN TO INTELLIGENCE EXPERTS AND HENCE RAPIDLY  
LOSING FORMER SUPERIORITY IN WEAPONRY. HE CALLED FOR TOP  
LEVEL INVESTIGATION OF HIS CHARGES LEST WEST LOSE VITAL LEAD  
TIME IN MAINTAINING DETERRENT CAPABILITY. BRITISH BRIGADIER  
HUNT SPOKE IN DEFENSE OF NATO'S ESTIMATE OF WARSAW PACT  
CAPABILITIES, SAID PRESENT WESTERN STRENGTH AND TECHNICAL  
CAPABILITY SUFFICIENT TO NEEDS. HOWEVER, HE ADDED B-1 WOULD  
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GREATLY ENHANCE TRIAD SYSTEM AIR-SEA-ROCKETRY DEFENSE  
POSTURE. UNFORTUNATELY KEEGAN'S PITCH, CHARISMA,  
PERSUASIVE STYLE, AND CREDENTIALS GAVE HIM SUBSTANTIAL  
CREDIBILITY EDGE, PARTICULARLY FOR NON-SPECIALIST  
AUDIENCE.

2. FEEDBACK INDICATES THAT SERIES MAY HAVE LEFT UN-

FAVORABLE IMPRESSION OF NATO'S CAPABILITY ON SOME  
ICELANDIC VILERS. NATO TOURS, SECOND OF WHICH POST  
IS NOW ORGANIZING ARE THEREFORE PARTICULARLY TIMELY  
SINCE THEY CAN DO MUCH TO ADD PERSPECTIVE TO LOCAL  
ESTIMATE OF NATO'S CREDIBILITY. CURIOUSLY, OPPONENTS  
OF THE BASE AT KEFLAVIK ATTACKED THE PROGRAM AS  
HAWKISH PROPAGANDA FOR A STRONGER NATO.  
RANTANEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ALLIANCE, TELEVISION BROADCASTING, MOTION PICTURES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 12-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977REYKJA01088  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770291-1037  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** REYKJAVIK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770867/aaaacekg.tel  
**Line Count:** 70  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 1648755b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1616733  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CONTROVERSIAL NATO FILMS ON ICELAND STATE TV . ICELAND STATE TV BROADCAST TWO-PART SERIES ENTITLED "NATO ON ITS KNEES?" AUGUST 3 AND 10, A PRODUCTION OF BR  
**TAGS:** PGOV, IC, NATO  
**To:** USIA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/1648755b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009